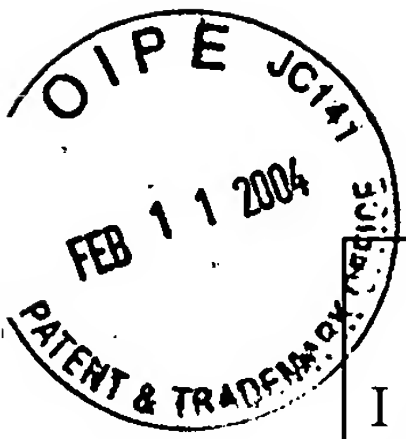


CASE HA726 DIV-1



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February 9, 2004
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ATWAL ET AL.

Examiner: Rao, D.

APPLICATION NO: 10/660,878

Art Unit: 1624

FILED: SEPTEMBER 12, 2003

FOR: HETEROCYCLIC DIHYDROPYRIMIDINE COMPOUNDS

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter this second preliminary amendment shown in the attached status of the claims in this application, which is being filed as a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/729,731, filed December 5, 2000.

REMARKS

The claim numbering in the first preliminary amendment was entered incorrectly and has now been corrected to reflect the correct numbers as claims 61-83. Original claims 55-60 have been cancelled. New claims 80-83 have been added. Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 61-83

are pending in this application. Support for the amendments can be found in the original claims and throughout the specification. In particular, claim 83 is supported by the specification on pages 30-32 of the above-identified application. No new matter has been added.

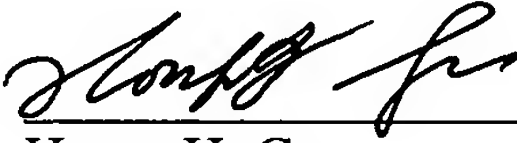
The presently pending claims are not taught or suggested by any prior art. In particular, the art does not teach the use of compounds as are claimed to specifically treat atrial arrhythmias, or to treat any of the other indications as are claimed.

Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein place the claims in condition for immediate allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully requested. If a telephonic communication would further expedite the process, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number provided.

Please charge any necessary additional fees associated with this filing or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3880.

Respectfully submitted,

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Patent Department
P.O. Box 4000
Princeton, NJ 08543-4000
(609) 252-6457



Henry H. Gu
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. P55,227

Date: February 9, 2004